

fender's office, she was involved in a pro- the Hurricane Iniki disaster insurance is- people I know," Ho said.
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Palace rally hears sympathetic words of 1893 president

By Kris M. Tanahara
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President Grover Cleveland's 1893 message to Congress condemning America's role in the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy was read publicly yesterday during a rally on the Iolani Palace grounds.

About 80 people gathered on the palace grounds to listen to the text, which was read by 27 members of different groups of native Hawaiians and others.

Readers included University of Hawaii-Hilo Professor Hau-nani Bernardino, Kekuni Blais-dell of Ka Pakaukau, H. Bruss Keppeler of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Allicyn Hikida of the Japanese Ameri-can Citizens League, Lynette Cruz of Hui Na'auao, and state Reps. Ululani Beirne and Tom Okamura.

Hayden Burgess of the Insti-tute for the Advancement of Hawaiian Affairs said yester-day's 100th anniversary com-memoration of Cleveland's mes-sage was timely because Hawaiian sovereignty is on the minds of many people.

"The timing was perfect," he said.

This year marked the 100th anniversary of Queen Lili'uoka-lani's ouster and the demise of the Hawaiian monarchy. On Jan. 15-17 residents throughout the state observed the anniver-sary, which was highlighted by the United Church of Christ's



Enos

Keoho

apology to native Hawaiians for its role in the overthrow. In the months that followed, Hawaiian sovereignty-centered events were held throughout the state.

In his message of Dec. 18, 1893, Cleveland called on Con-gress to address and rectify the "substantial wrong" committed by the United States when it dethroned Queen Lili'uokalani on Jan. 17, 1893.

"Therefore the military occu-pation of Honolulu by the Unit-ed States on the day mentioned was wholly without justifica-tion, either as an occupation by consent or as an occupation nec-essitated by dangers threaten-ing American life and proper-ty," Cleveland said in his message.

"A substantial wrong has thus been done which a due regard for our national charac-ter as well as rights of the in-jured people requires we should endeavor to repair."

But Congress ignored the message and in 1898 voted for the annexation of the Islands.



Advertiser photo by Carl Vill

Anna Leota of Halau O'Keaunui of Hauula performs a hula on the grounds of Iolani Palace yesterday.

Eric Enos, executive director of Ka'ala Cultural Learning Center, said he read the entire text for the first time last Sun-day.

"I was shocked," he said. "I had to stop and say, 'Oh, wow,' because Cleveland was so clear in his analysis."

Eliza Keoho of Foster Village

and her 9-year-old granddaugh-ter Hoala Morrison stood under a nearby tree, listening intent-ly to the speakers delivering Cleveland's message.

"I think it's very interesting," said Keoho, 74, a retired federal worker. "Us Hawaiians have to band together and fight for what's ours."